

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8**

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Michael E. Carroll, Jr.

11/3/06  
Date of Signature

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
Melton et al.

Serial No.: 10,765,434

Art Unit: 2874

Filed: January 27, 2004

Examiner: Unknown

Title: PRECONNECTORIZED FIBER OPTIC  
DROP CABLES AND ASSEMBLIES  
FOR EFFICIENT DEPLOYMENT

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document(s) listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

☐ Under 1.97(b) after the filing date of the application, but, to the best of Applicants' knowledge:

☐ within three (3) months of the filing date of the National application, which is not a continued prosecution application (CPA) under § 1.53(d); OR

☐ within three (3) months of the date of entry of the National stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; OR

☐ before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; OR

☐ before the mailing of the first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under § 1.114.

☒ Under 1.97(c) after the events recited above, but, to the best of Applicants' knowledge before the mailing date of any of a final action under § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under

§ 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and this submission is accompanied by:

- ☒ the statement specified in § 1.97(e); OR
- ☐ the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).
- ☐ Pursuant to 1.97(d) after the events recited above, but, to the best of Applicants'

knowledge before payment of the issue fee, and this submission is accompanied by:

- ☐ the statement specified in § 1.97(e); AND
- ☐ the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).


STATEMENT SPECIFIED IN § 1.97(e)

Pursuant to 1.97(e), Applicants hereby state and affirm that:

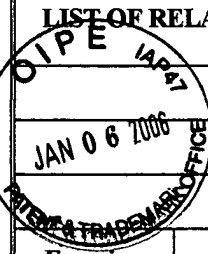
- ☒ each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement; OR
- ☐ no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- ☐ Pursuant to the waiver of the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), no copies of U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent application publications are included herewith because the above-identified application was filed after June 30, 2003.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document(s) and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form. This submission does not constitute the document(s) as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited document(s) do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document(s). Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document(s), should one or more of the document(s) be applied against the claims of the present application. If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-2167.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: 1/3/06

<b>FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office</b>				<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b> HE-0216		<b>Serial Number:</b> 10/765,434	
<b>LIST OF RELATED DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)				<b>Applicant:</b> Melton et al.			
				<b>Filing Date:</b> January 27, 2004		<b>Group:</b> 2874	
<b>U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
<b>Examiner Initial</b>		<b>Document Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Subclass</b>	<b>Filing Date if Appropriate</b>
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		<b>Document Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Subclass</b>	<b>Translation Yes   No</b>
	AK	1258758 A2	11/20/02	Europe	G02B	6/38	
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
<b>EXAMINER</b>					<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>		

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/US2005/002671

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
 IPC 7 G02B6/38 G02B6/44

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G02B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EP0-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 542 674 B1 (GIMBLET MICHAEL J) 1 April 2003 (2003-04-01)	1,18,32
Y	abstract; figure 1  column 2, lines 3-50 column 3, lines 40-45	2-6,19, 20,33,34
Y	EP 0 997 757 A (AMPHENOL CORPORATION) 3 May 2000 (2000-05-03) abstract; figures 1,2	2-6,19, 20,33,34
Y	US 2003/063867 A1 (MCDONALD A. JOHN ET AL) 3 April 2003 (2003-04-03) abstract; figures 2-4,6	2-6,19, 20,33,34
Y	EP 1 258 758 A (CORNING CABLE SYSTEMS LLC) 20 November 2002 (2002-11-20) abstract; figures 2,3,11	5

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 August 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

22. 11. 2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US2005/002671

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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			EP 1319195 A2 18-06-2003
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